

2/11/2011 - WEEK IN REVIEW – FEDERAL COURT ACTIVITY

United States Attorney's Office, Northern District of Indiana

Hammond, Indiana - The United States Attorney's Office announced:

Manuel Mendoza, 41, of Hammond, Indiana, pled guilty before Senior Judge James Moody to count one of an indictment charging him with illegal reentry of a deported alien. These charges were filed as the result of an investigation by the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Office of Homeland Security Investigations. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Gary Bell.

Shaun Burts, 28, of , Gary, Indiana, was sentenced by Senior Judge Rudy Lozano to 15 months imprisonment and 2 years of supervised release after pleading guilty to count one of an indictment charging him with being a felon in possession of a firearm. This case was the result of an investigation by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Joshua Kolar.

Mark Culp, 31, of Monticello, Indiana, pled guilty before Judge Joseph Van Bokkelen to count one of an indictment charging him with theft of government property (unemployment insurance funds). Sentencing has been set for 4/21/11. These charges were filed as the result of an investigation by the U.S. Department of Labor OIG - Office of Labor Racketeering and Fraud Investigations, and the Indiana Department of Workforce Development. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Gary Bell.

Jeffrey Kidd, 35, of Rensselaer, Indiana, was sentenced by Senior Judge Rudy Lozano to 9 months imprisonment and 1 year of supervised release, including 4 months of home detention, after pleading guilty to count one of an indictment charging him with use of a communication facility to possess with the intent to distribute Methamphetamine and marijuana. This case was the result of an investigation by the Drug Enforcement Administration. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Joshua Kolar.

Eric Copeland, 28, of East Chicago, Indiana, was sentenced by Senior Judge Rudy Lozano to 6 months imprisonment and 3 years of supervised release, of which 6 months will be home detention, after pleading guilty to count one of a superseding indictment charging him with drug trafficking (crack cocaine). This case was the result of an investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Jennifer Chang-Adiga.

Timothy Smith, 44, of Lafayette, Indiana, pled guilty before Chief Judge Philip Simon to count one of an indictment charging him with theft of government property (unemployment funds). Sentencing has been set for 5/4/11. These charges were filed as the result of an investigation by U.S. Department of Labor OIG - Office of Labor Racketeering and Fraud Investigations, and the Indiana Department of Workforce Development. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Jill Trumbull-Harris.

Amy Magallanos, 31, of Whiting, Indiana, was sentenced by Chief Judge Philip Simon to 2 years probation with 8 months of home detention after pleading guilty to count two of an indictment charging her with distribution of cocaine in the case *US v Alvelo et al*. This case was the result of an investigation by the Drug Enforcement Administration HIDTA Task Force. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Jacqueline Jacobs.

Bryan Taylor, 20, of Gary, Indiana, was sentenced by Senior Judge Rudy Lozano to 6 months imprisonment and 2 years of supervised release, of which 4 months will be home detention, after pleading guilty to count two of a superseding indictment charging him with receiving a firearm while under felony information. This case was the

result of an investigation by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives HIDTA Task Force. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Dean Lanter.

Christina Becker, 47, of **Lafayette, Indiana**, pled guilty before Judge Joseph Van Bokkelen to count four of an indictment charging her with wire fraud affecting a financial institution. Sentencing has been set for 4/26/11. These charges were filed as the result of an investigation by the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Office of Homeland Security Investigations, and the Kokomo Police Department . This case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Jill Trumbull-Harris.

Alfredo Delgado, 30, pled guilty before Senior Judge James Moody to count one of an indictment charging him with conspiracy to possess with the intent to distribute cocaine in the case *US v Diaz et al.* These charges were filed as the result of an investigation by the Drug Enforcement Administration HIDTA Task Force. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney David Nozick.

Jesse Flores, 26, of Munster, Indiana, was sentenced by Senior Judge Rudy Lozano to 67 months imprisonment and 3 years of supervised release after pleading guilty to count one of an indictment charging him with being a felon in possession of a firearm. This case was the result of an investigation by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives HIDTA Task Force, and the East Chicago Police Department. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney David Nozick.

Randall McNeil, 29, of Dolton, Illinois, was sentenced by to two years of probation after pleading guilty to count one of an indictment charging him with theft of government funds (FEMA). McNeil was ordered to pay \$13,637.13 in restitution. This case was the result of an investigation by the Department of Homeland Security-Office of the Inspector General. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Thomas Ratcliffe.

Jerry Host, 40, of Gary, Indiana, was sentenced by Chief Judge Philip Simon to 30 months imprisonment and 3 years of supervised release after pleading guilty to count one of an indictment charging him with distribution of crack cocaine. In addition, Host was also sentenced to 18 months imprisonment to run consecutively to the 30 months imposed on this case after pleading guilty to violations of the conditions of his supervised release on a separate matter. This case was the result of an investigation by the **Federal Bureau of Investigation GRIT Task Force**. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney David Nozick.

Sherlynn Groat, 56, of Hammond, Indiana, pled guilty before Senior Judge Rudy Lozano to counts one and two of a felony information charging her with theft and embezzlement by an officer of a bank, and false entry. Groat was a Vice President at Liberty Mutual Bank in Whiting, Indiana. Sentencing has been set for 5/5/11. This case was the result of an investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the Indiana State Police. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Toi Houston.

Shaun Kimbrough, 21, of Gary, Indiana, pled guilty before Judge Joseph Van Bokkelen to count one of a felony complaint charging him with being a felon in possession of a firearm. Sentencing has been set for 5/10/11. These charges were filed as the result of an investigation by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Joshua Kolar.

Fort Wayne, IN - The United States Attorney's Office announced the following activity in federal court:

Thomas Cooper, 29, of Fort Wayne, Indiana, was sentenced by Judge Theresa Springmann to 120 months imprisonment and 2 years of supervised release after pleading guilty to count six of an indictment charging him with being a felon in possession of a firearm. This case was the result of an investigation by Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, and the **Fort Wayne Police Department Gang Unit**. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Tina Nommay.

Terrill Dishong, 41, of Fort Wayne, Indiana, was sentenced by Magistrate Judge Roger Cosbey to 9 months imprisonment and 1 year of supervised release after pleading guilty to count one of an information charging him with willful failure to file income tax return. This case was the result of an investigation by the Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Robert Trgovich.

John Dissinger, 40, of Fort Wayne, Indiana, was sentenced by Judge Theresa Springmann to 10 months imprisonment and 2 years of supervised release after pleading guilty to count one of an indictment charging him with failure to register as a sex offender. This case was the result of an investigation by the United States Marshal's Service, and the Allen County Police Department. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Lesley Miller Lowery.

Jacqueline Dagle, 38, of Churubusco, Indiana, was sentenced by Magistrate Judge Roger Cosbey to 9 months imprisonment and 1 year of supervised release after pleading guilty to count one of an information charging her with willful failure to file an income tax return. This case was the result of an investigation by the Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Robert Trgovich.

Darol Floyd, 47, of Hartford City, Indiana, pled guilty before Magistrate Judge Roger Cosbey to count one of an indictment charging him with possession with the intent to distribute marijuana. Sentencing has been set for 5/9/11. These charges were filed as the result of an investigation by the the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Office of Homeland Security Investigations, the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Indiana State Police, the Joint Effort Against Narcotics (JEAN) Task Force, the Blackford County Sheriff's Office, the Grant County Sheriff's Office, and the Marion Police Department. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Anthony Geller.

Randy Hicks, 46, of Rome City, Indiana, was sentenced by Judge Theresa Springmann to 10 months imprisonment and 2 years of supervised release after pleading guilty to counts one and three of a superseding indictment charging him with failing to disclose an event affecting continued right to Supplemental Security Income (SSI), and being a felon in possession of a firearm. Hicks was also ordered to pay \$21,657.00 in restitution. This case was the result of an investigation by the Social Security Administration, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Lovita Morris King.

The specific sentence in each case to be imposed upon conviction will be determined by the judge after a consideration of federal sentencing statutes and the Federal Sentencing Guidelines.

South Bend, IN—The United States Attorney's Office announced:

Apolinar Macedo, of South Bend, Indiana, pled guilty before Judge Robert Miller, Jr. to count one of a superseding indictment charging him with conspiracy to distribute cocaine. Sentencing has been set for 5/18/11. These charges were filed as the result of an investigation by the Drug Enforcement Administration. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Frank Schaffer .

Gregory Hallstrom, 22, of Michigan City, Indiana, pled guilty before Magistrate Judge Christopher Neuchterlein to count two of an indictment charging him with being an unlawful user of a controlled substance in possession of a firearm. Sentencing has been set for 4/15/11. These charges were filed as the result of an investigation by the Drug Enforcement Administration, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives . This case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Frank Schaffer.

Heather Rach, 26, of Mishawaka, Indiana, was sentenced by Judge Robert Miller, Jr. to 13 months imprisonment and 3 years of supervised release after pleading guilty to count two of an indictment charging her with possession of a firearm as a drug user in the case *US v Carpenter et al.* This case was the result of an

investigation by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Donald Schmid.

Roxanna Brown, 34, of Osceola, Indiana, was sentenced by Judge Jon DeGuilio to 33 months imprisonment and 2 years of supervised release after pleading guilty to counts one and two of an information charging her with wire fraud. Brown was also ordered to pay \$481,244.65 in restitution. This case was the result of an investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Donald Schmid.

Cori Rider, 27, of Peru, Indiana, was sentenced by Judge Jon DeGuilio to 2 years of supervised probation and \$4425.00 in restitution after pleading guilty to count one of an indictment charging him with misappropriation of postal funds. This case was the result of an investigation by the United States Postal Inspection Service. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Jesse Barrett.

Joann Joyner-Williams, 47, of South Bend, Indiana, was sentenced by Judge Jon DeGuilio to 41 months imprisonment and 2 years of supervised release after being found guilty at trial of all 22 counts of an indictment charging her with preparing false returns, and making false statements to the IRS. Joyner-Williams was a self employed tax preparer who claimed multiple false deductions and credits for taxpayers who did not tell Joyner-Williams they qualified for such deductions and credits. Joyner-Williams was ordered to pay \$2654.21 in restitution, and \$2200.00 in special assessment fees. This case was the result of an investigation by the Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Jesse Barrett.

Damian Newhouse, 33, of South Bend, Indiana, was sentenced by Judge Robert Miller, Jr. to 60 months imprisonment and 3 years of supervised release after pleading guilty to count one of an indictment charging him with possession of an unregistered sawed off shotgun. This case was the result of an investigation by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Donald Schmid.

The specific sentence in each case to be imposed upon conviction will be determined by the judge after a consideration of federal sentencing statutes and the Federal Sentencing Guidelines.